

DAILY GAZETTE

J. H. KOOLER, Editor.

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SOLE SURVIVOR'S STORY.

The Alleged Trials of a Man Who Escaped From the Apaches

The San Francisco Call of the 1st, contains an interview with a man giving the name of Ambrose Sampras, who claims to be a prospector who has just reached Frisco from Mexico. He states that he was in the party of Mexican Central engineers who were massacred just below Paso del Norte on July 1st, or 2d. The morning of the fight he was behind the party waiting for a Mexican boy who had lagged from camp, and had gone three miles from the camping-place when he heard the Apache war-whoop.

"I knew at once," said he, "we were in for it, for I have been on the frontier ten or fifteen years, and had many a brush with the red devils. I was probably a half mile behind the rest of the boys when the fight began and was cut off before I could reach them. I believe, if I could have been with them, things would have gone differently, for they were well armed and all brave fellows, but had no leader, and understood nothing about Indian fighting. In making the effort to get to my friends I was captured, and would have been killed, but my Mexican boy put in an appearance and told the Indians I was wealthy and would be rescued by friends. I was then bound hand and foot, and left where I could see the fight going on. The survivors fought like bloodhounds, but without system. I don't think it lasted over ten minutes. There were forty-five or fifty-six Indians. Six were killed and nine wounded, as nearly as could be judged. After all the whites were killed the Indians plundered the baggage. I have had a great deal to do with Indians, but never saw them under better discipline or so well armed as this band was. It made the blood run cold to see the heartless wretches butcher the wounded after the fight was over. I think there were five or six of the survivors who were not fatally wounded, but the devils seemed to take delight in killing them. I was strapped to a mule and started to the mountains. The Indians then moved towards the mountains to the old camp. Here they left the wounded in charge of a few of their number and moved west about ten miles to another camp, where they staid a week. I was well treated, but closely guarded. After committing a number of murders and robberies, they moved down the coast to within about seventy miles of Guaymas, and crossed to an island in the Gulf, I think it is Angel Island. The passage was made during a dark night, and in the excitement I made my escape, tramped it down to Guaymas, undergoing many hardships and living on shell-fish and almost perishing for water. Several times the weather was so hot that I had to travel at night and lay over during the day. I was five days and nights making the trip. I stayed in Guaymas two days, and crossed the gulf in a schooner to Lower California, where I got in with a party of prospectors, and made my way up to San Diego. I am now on my way to Washington. That the Indians were a portion of Victorio's band is true, but that they were commanded by one of his men is a mistake. They were under that villain Victorio. I had seen him a number of times in New Mexico, and knew him at once. I know it was reported he had been killed, but we who are acquainted with the Apache-Mexican fighting did not believe it. Victorio is alive, and understands the lay of the country too well to be captured by soldiers."

It is difficult to determine whether to treat this story seriously, or to pass it over as the yarn of one of that class who are continually thrusting themselves forward into notoriety, by the relation of remarkable escapes. Gen. Zuloaga's party from Chihuahua that came through to Paso del Norte by private coach, and who frightened off the Indians by making a big show of strength, passed the Mexican Central R'y party the day before the massacre. They all claimed that there were six men in the party, although Mr. Upham, the Resident Engineer of the railway, could account for but five, and the impression was that the General's party was mistaken. It is probable that Simprax or some other man joined the party on the road from the engineer camp, and this story may be in part correct. His positive statement that old Victorio commanded the Apaches is wide of the truth. Only a few weeks ago the GAZETTE published the true account of the death of the old renegade chief, and the truth of our story is vouched for by Gen. Juan Zuloaga, a man well known throughout Chihuahua. His information was derived from some of his peones at his San Andreas rancho, who made up the larger portion of the volunteer force that routed Victorio's force at Tres Castillos last fall. Simprax evidently mistook Nane, Victorio's successor, for the old chief himself. Nane is deserving of all the compliments showered upon him by this sole survivor.

PROHIBITION.

On Thursday the people of North Carolina voted on a prohibitory amendment to the State Constitution. It is announced that the result of the voting was an overwhelming majority against its acceptance. The following is a resume of the bill:

"It prohibits the manufacture of spirituous or malt liquors, except wines or cider, in the State. It prohibits the

sale of these liquors by any except the regular druggists who may be licensed under this act, and by them except on a certificate from a respectable physician, mechanic or artist, stating that the liquor is necessary for medical, mechanical or chemical purposes. No greater quantity than one gallon can be sold to any person at one time. No druggist is allowed to keep more than thirty gallons on hand. No physician licensed under this act as a druggist can give the required certificate. Violation of these provisions is punishable by fines varying from \$100 to \$1,000 and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Murdered By Marauders.

Paso del Norte, Mexico, July 24.—It appears that the body of the unknown American found near the Ventanas Mts. lately, was that of a miner, name unknown, who was on his way to this city from some of the mines near Carrisal. He was probably one of the first victims of the Apaches in their late raid but his body was not discovered sooner because it lay about a quarter of a mile off the road. Mr. White's mining outfit turning off the road to camp noticed the buzzards congregated and discovered the remains so horribly mutilated by wolves as to be unrecognizable. One more unknown grave, one more nameless victim of Indian cruelty. The two men some time ago reported as lying dead in Quitman Canyon, Texas, were named Melvin and Smith. They were killed by a party of white outlaws who stole their stock, money and arms, and left their victims on the road where they fell. The stage driver passing along soon afterwards reported the fact and soldiers were sent out to bury them.

The murderers took dinner at McKern's grading camp the day after the killing, and supper at Stout's camp. They acted as if they feared pursuit, for one mounted guard with cocked Winchester while the others ate their meals. The party separated soon after leaving Stout's camp into squads of two and three, but it is believed they all came on to El Paso.

The report of an attack by Indians on Stout's grading camp is incorrect, although Indians have lately been seen in the neighborhood.

[The letter of our correspondent, although long delayed by washouts, contains items of interest not yet published, and we therefore give it space.—Ed.]

Notice to the Public.

For fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, bulbs and flowering plants of all kinds, see R. Armstrong, of the Geneva Nursery, N. Y. He will remain in town a few days for the purpose of taking orders from those that may desire to purchase. Refers respectfully to Jeff Reynolds, Esq., First National Bank, P. O. box 45. 7-10-1m

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\$100 Reward for Tom Deane.
The above reward will be paid by the Mora County Stock Growers' Association of Mora Co., New Mexico, for the arrest and delivery to the proper authorities at Mora County Jail of TOM DEAN alias TOM CUMMINGS, from Armenta, Red River, N. M., for stealing cattle. Deane when last heard from was at one of the Narrows Gauge Road camps at Rio Arriba county, New Mexico.

A STANDING REWARD OF \$50 IS OFFERED FOR the arrest and conviction of any THIEF who has stolen Stock from any member of the Mora County Stock Growers' Association, and \$100 REWARD

Will be paid for information which will lead to the conviction of Buyers of Stolen Stock. STOCK GROWERS ASSOCIATION, Mora County, N. M.

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